Ask the U.S. Embassy

October 29, 2014

Come prepared for your interview

Q: I was notified that my immigrant visa case is eligible for interview and I'm expecting to interview at the Embassy soon. I already turned in all the necessary documents during the process -- what else does the Embassy need at the interview?

A: First, congratulations. Immigration to the United States can be the experience of a lifetime. For an immigrant visa, the interview is the final step before issuance. At the interview, a consular officer will review your immigration petition, visa application, and supporting information for compliance with immigration law, verification of the facts, and potential visa ineligibilities. While your case file already contains extensive documentation, we require you to bring several additional documents to your interview appointment. Your case will be delayed until you submit them – the timely submission of these final documents can make the difference between receiving the visa weeks after your interview or months. Please ensure that you have everything you need prior to your interview. You will have a much smoother process and will start your American adventure all that much sooner!

Here is the list of required documents you must bring on the day of your interview:

- Police certificates from any country where you have resided longer than six months in your adult life (after the age of 16). Please note – Jamaican police certificates expire within one year of issuance. You must bring current documents to the interview.
- Medical exam results. Make sure you complete your medical exam 5 to 10 days in advance of the interview to ensure that you can pick up the medical exam report in time for your interview. (You will have received instructions on arranging your appointment some time back.) Please note -- your medical exam report expires within six months. Like the police certificate, it must be current.
- Affidavit(s) of Support. Your sponsor will need to show income of at least 125% of the
 U.S. Federal Poverty Guidelines on the date that he or she signs the affidavit. You
 should bring as much recent tax and financial information from your sponsor to show
 that they can still meet this standard. If you have doubts about whether your sponsor can
 show this, you may want to consider bringing in an additional affidavit from a joint
 sponsor.

In general, it's a good idea to bring as much information as possible to the interview. Having photos, tax or financial documents, and original marriage or birth certificates on hand can make the process faster. If you have any other issues, such as criminal convictions, bring all of the relevant information such as court dispositions to the interview.

Avoid unnecessary delays -- come prepared with everything you need!

You can find more information about how to travel to the U.S. on our website, www.kingston.usembassy.gov. Keep on top of Embassy news on our Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/pages/US-Embassy-Jamaica and by following @USEmbassyJA on Twitter. We also answer general visa questions on our Facebook and Twitter pages.